

APHIS Veterinary Services Animal Product Commodity Examples for Cargo Shippers

Speaker 1: This webinar describes examples of APHIS Veterinary Services regulated animal product commodities imported by cargo shippers and how these commodities may be filed within the Department of Homeland Securities' new electronic system called the automated commercial environment or ACE. This webinar does not address APHIS Veterinary Services regulated animal material that is live or used in the production of live animals such as semen and or embryos. Please review the APHIS Veterinary Services webinar for commodity examples shipped by express carriers which includes examples of commodities such as semen and or embryos.

Most operational processes will remain the same for cargo entries. Import permits will continue to be required and issued by APHIS Veterinary Services National Import Export Services and government certifications must continue to be submitted to Customs as original paper documents. Please remember, your commodity may be regulated by other federal, state and local agencies. Meeting APHIS import requirements does not confer or imply that the commodity has met the requirements of any other federal, state or local agencies.

For example, bird bells or rodent feeds may be restricted by APHIS Veterinary Services and APHIS Plant Protection and Quarantine. It is the responsibility of the broker/filer to properly describe and or manifest commodities including use of the appropriate harmonized tariff schedule code. As currently required, all government to government certificates must continue to be properly filled out and endorsed and provided to Customs in the original paper form. However, non-government documents maybe provided in electronic format. Further information regarding these non-government documentation follows in this presentation.

Previously admissibility decision is performed manually by review of various submitted paper forms. In the world of electronic entry, most information on a shipment must now be provided in an electronic format within the automated commercial environment system. There are three methods by which required information can be submitted, the message set, the document image system or DIS and by paper. All APHIS Veterinary Services regulated commodities will require submission of the message set data. USDA Veterinary Services issued permits such as the VS form 16-6A for animal products and APHIS form 2006, which are permits for research and evaluation of veterinary biologics, are now available to Customs through a direct link from USDA to ACE.

Paper permits are no long required to be submitted by the filer for these two permits. However, the permit number must be submitted in the message set in order to ensure the correct permit can be found by the ACE system and properly associated with the shipment. Any symbols such as dashes or letters within the permit number must also be included. Please note, APHIS form 2006 permits for sales and distribution of veterinary biologics must be submitted by the document image

system. Failure to provide this version of the APHIS form 2006 via the DIS may result in failure of the shipment to be allowed entry.

The following information is VS program wide and is the minimum data that must be provided by the broker/filer for entry into the message set. Failure to provide the required information may result in the delay of release of the shipment. When shipment information is entered into the message set, it must include coding which directs the information to the agency and program unit commissioned with regulatory authority over that commodity. For imports of commodities regulated by APHIS, the government agency code for APHIS is APH. For commodities regulated by APHIS Veterinary Services, the government agency program code is AVS.

To ensure appropriate regulatory requirements are applied, it is imperative that the correct harmonized tariff schedule HTS code is provided with the shipment. For additional information regarding HTS codes, please contact the Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Protection directly. The category code or AP code identifies the shipment as being within the animal products category and assists proper routing of the shipment. For example, semen, embryos and cloning tissues used for research purposes that do not result in the production of a live animal are permitted under the VS form 16-6a and are routed to Customs and Border Protection agricultural specialists for document review.

Veterinary biologics such as veterinary vaccines or veterinary diagnostic kits are permitted under the APHIS form 2006 and are routed to Customs Border Protection agricultural specialists for document review and for movement to the quarantine location. The category type code further identifies the commodity to ensure it complies with the corresponding permit requirements. A list of veterinary services category codes or AP codes can be found in appendix PGA. The permit number must be submitted in the message set in order to ensure that the correct permit can be found by the ACE system and properly associated with the shipment.

The health certificate number is a unique identifier and allows Customs agents to match the submitted original paper document with the appropriate message set and USDA issued permit. Depending on the commodity being imported, the name of the country of origin and or country of export must be provided. This information can also be found on APHIS required documentation. Individual commodities may require additional data. This is an example of an APHIS Veterinary Services Permit VS form 16-6a for animal products. The red outlined areas on this document indicate where you can find required message set information.

Additional information may be found on other shipping documents. Information such as the permit number can be found in the upper right hand corner of the document. The commodity description may provide additional information on an as needed basis. As previously stated, APHIS Veterinary Services issued permits are no longer required to be submitted in paper. These are examples of APHIS Veterinary Services permits, APHIS form 2006 for veterinary biologic. The red outlined areas on this

document indicate where you can find the required message set information. Additional information may be found on other shipping documents.

APHIS form 2006 permits for research and evaluation of veterinary biologic pictured on the left do not need to be submitted in paper. Simply provide the permit number within the message set. APHIS form 2006 permits for sales and distribution of veterinary biologic pictured on the right must be submitted via the document image system. Failure to provide APHIS form 2006 for sales and distribution of veterinary biologic via the DIS may result in failure of the shipment to the allowed entry.

APHIS form 2006 permits for sales and distribution of veterinary biologic do not have a permit number and cannot be entered into the message set. Instead, information such as the establishment number and permitted destination address which is the quarantine site may be submitted via the message set. This information can be located in the body of the APHIS form 2006 text. The shipper information and commodity description may provide additional information on an as needed basis.

This is one example of a foreign veterinary health certificate. Foreign veterinary health certificates vary by country and come in various formats. Foreign veterinary health certificates may also be referred to as zoosanitary certificates. While the veterinary health certificate itself must continue to be submitted in the original paper form, the certificate number must be provided in the message set. This is important to ensure that the correct certificate is attached to corresponding message set and VS permit if required in the ACE system. Additionally, other information required in the message set may be found in the certificate such as exporter name and address, importer name and address, commodity description, country of export, et cetera.

This slide lists the contact information to learn more about USDA APHIS VS import requirements and ACE. To determine import requirements for USDA APHIS VS regulated animal product commodities, please visit our website, call us or email us. For ACE resources, please visit our website or email us with questions. The following commodity examples make reference to the appendix PGA. The appendix PGA web address is listed on the slide. Example one, commodities intended for human consumption. Please provide the correct 10-digit HTS code regardless of which HTS is used. The correct category code for animal products intended for human consumption is AP0300.

The article category type code will vary depending on the type of commodity being important, 301 is for meat and poultry and commodities containing meat and poultry. 302 is milk and milk products. 303 is for egg and egg products. 304 is for commodities containing egg and or egg product and or milk and or milk products. Reminder, additional information and more detailed description of article category type codes can be found in the ACE appendix PGA. The permit number, health certificate number, country of export and country of origin or manufacturer must be provided. This information can be found on the health certificate or other shipping documents.

If the permit limits the shipment to a specific commodity type, then this information must also be provided. This may include the species from which the product or animal origin materials contained within the product are derived and the type of commodity, for example, ham, sausage, bouillon. Example two, pet food/animal feed ingredients. Please provide the correct 10-digit HTS code. All HTS codes for the importation of animal feeds/pet food ingredients can be found in chapter 23 of the harmonized tariff schedule. Please note, human grade edible products intended for animal consumption must be imported using the appropriate chapter 23 HTS code and requires a valid USDA APHIS Veterinary Services import permit VS 16-6a.

If no permit is presented, human grade edible products intended for animal consumption maybe imported under the correct HTS code for human consumption products but must be inspected by USDA Food Safety Inspection Service or FSIS regardless of which chapter 23 HTS code is used. The correct APHIS category code for products intended for animal consumption is AP0300. The correct article category type code is AP0305 animal consumption products. The permit number, health certificate number and country of export and or origin must be provided and can be found on the permit, health certificate or other shipping documents. Manufacturer statements if required by the permit must be submitted via the document image system. The species from which the materials contained within the product are derived, for example bovine, avian, porcine must also be provided within the message set.

Example three, finished pet food/animal feeds which includes treats, shoes and flavored toys. Please provide the correct 10-digit HTS code. All HTS codes for the importation of animal feed and pet food/shoes/treats can be found in chapter 23 of the harmonized tariff schedule regardless of which HTS code is used. The correct category code for product intended for animal consumption is AP0300. The correct article category type code is 0305 animal consumption products. As a previous example, the permit number, health certificate number and country of export and or origin must be provided and can be found on the permit, health certificate and other shipping documents. The manufacturer's statements must also be submitted via the document image system if required on the permit. The species from which the animal origin materials contained within the product are derived from must also be provided.

Example four, feathers for stuffing. Please provide the correct 10-digit HTS code. All HTS codes for the importation of feathers for stuffing can be found in heading 0505 of chapter 5 of the harmonized tariff schedule. The correct category code for feathers for stuffing is AP0300. The category type for feathers for stuffing is 315, hides and related by products. As with previous examples, the permit number is required, country of export and country of origin must be provided. The manufacturer's statement or letter of authorization is required by the permit must be submitted by the document image system.

Example five, inedible gelatin. The correct 10-digit code must be provided regardless of which HTS code is used. The correct category code for inedible gelatin is AP0300. The correct article category type code for gelatin is 314. The species of animal from

which the materials have been derived must be included. For listing a species, please see the ACE appendix PGA APHIS characteristics, animal products and by products and choose the code which corresponds with the species from which the materials have been derived. When required, a permit number, health certificate number, country of export and country of origin must be provided.

Example six, fertilizers. The correct 10-digit HTS code must be provided regardless of which HTS code is used. The correct category code for fertilizer is AP0300. The correct article category type code for fertilizer is 318. When required, the permit number, health certificate number, country of export and country of origin must be provided. Please note that fertilizer containing plant material or chemicals may also be regulated by other federal agencies.

Example seven, veterinary biologic for sales and distribution. The correct 10-digit HTS code for veterinary vaccines is 3002.30.0000. If the commodity you are importing is not a veterinary vaccine, you must provide the correct harmonized tariff schedule code regardless of which HTS code is used. The category code for veterinary biologic is AP0300. The correct article category type code for veterinary biologic is 307. The producer/manufacturer name and address as well as the destination/quarantine address must be provided in the message set. There is not a connection between the electronic permitting system for APHIS form 2006 for sales and distribution of veterinary biologics and ACE therefore sales and distribution permits or veterinary biologics, APHIS form 2006 must be submitted by the document image system. Failure to provide APHIS form 2006 by the DIS may result in failure of the shipment to be allowed entry.

That concludes this webinar. Please feel free to visit our website, call us or email us to determine the import requirements for APHIS Veterinary Services regulated animal product commodities or also email us if you have any questions regarding ACE and APHIS.